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contract for the wood finish of one building that they might undertake to do could not possibly suffer.

The Michigan Trust Company's uon of an observer. New Building.

DETAILS OF THE STRUCTURE

The Corporation That Built It, and Its Occupants, Its Purposes, Its Dimensions and Its Equipments.

The Michigan Trust company building is a monument to the city of Grand Rapids, to the corporation that built is and to the genius and energy of modern commercial architecture.

It occupies the most conspicuous commercial site in the city, and from all points of view presents to the eye of the beholder the graceful and elegant lines of its lofty facades far above all surrounding structures. In its present completion it is the finest structure within the broad boundaries of Michigan, and stands without a superior in point of scientific plan or mechanical construction in all the world. From foundation to cornice the building is suggestive of the idea of utility rather toan estentation, and reflects emphatically not only the purpose of its erec-



LEWIS R. WITHEY,

tion, but the sterling, practical mind that created it, Mr. Anton G. Hodenpyl, secretary of the company.

The type of architecture is plain rather than ornate, though enough of ornament is blended with the design to give to the structure a legitimate claim to architectural beauty.

Type of Architecture. Though no distinct type of architec-

ture, either ancient or modern, may accurately be said to have furnished the motive, yet the general design em-braces features of the gothic, the Ren-

missance and the perpendicular.

The general dimensions of the building are 132 feet on Fearl street and 83 feet onOttawa street, and of a uniform height of ten stories, terminating in an attic 145 feet above the pavement. The first two stories are finished in massive blocks of Portage entry sandstone and are surmounted by a cornice of the same material, which furnishes a plain though rich, setting for the superstruc-The remaining eight stories are faced in red pressed brick. The third, fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh stories are united in a reveal having massive round-arch terminations with elaborate terra cotta capitols, ornamenting the bases from which they spring. Above the line of the seventh story an elaborate cornice runs around bosh facades

Variations in Style.

The eighta and ninth stories are built in reveals, as are the stories below, and finished in much the same manper. The third, fourth, fifth, sixth and tenth stories are frankly Renaissance, having square window frames and ornamental mullions. The intervals between the stories are judicious, affording the necessary element of blank wail requisite to project the adjacent features.
Above the last range of windows

there is a heavy terra cotta belt terminating in a moulding course, surterra cotta, giving a noble sky line.

The Pearl street front of the build-

ing contains the main entrance. It is m the middle of the facade and conrises to the height of the second story. It is finished in huge radial blocks of rock cut masonry. Above the arch the entrance line is projected to the neight of the seventh story and the superstructure within them made to sub-serve ine idea of a lofty portal. This feature of the facade is built entirely of terra cotta and ornamented with brackets, balustrades and conventions

PLAN OF THE BUILDING. Internal Arrangement of the Magnificient Structure.

The building is built around the sides of a court. The basement contains the motive power, pumps and elevator machinery. The first and second floors are especially designed to accommodate the Michigan State bank and the Michigan Trust company re-spectively, their tenants. The third floor plan is substantially the same as that of all floors above it and consists of a series of office apartments occupying the outer and inner limits of the building. There are spacious corridors on each floor. The upper floors of the building are reached by elevators and marble lavatories. The electric system for each room is controlled by an independent of the controlled by a controlled by an independent of the controlled by a controlled by an independent of the controlled by a cont by stair routes. Vaults, closets, gas meter, electric light and telephone chambers rise above each other in a perpendicular series from basement to From the main entrance access to the second story is racilitated by wide marble stair routes that flank the portal on either side. The safety deposit vaults, conpon rooms and com-mittee rooms are situated in a structure of ponderous masonry, one story building, and connected with the banking room above by a private stair route. main bank vaults are built in tiers nd rise from the soud hed rock foundations to the top story. above the mof, on the east wing of the building, janitor's quarters are situated, and

BEST IN THE STATE Valley City in point of loftiness, and on the inside door plates. No disfigureaffords a panoramic view of Grand Rapids and its environiment that wel-

From piers to roof crest the building is built of only such materials as have met the approval of scientific architecture for durability and non-cumbustion. The enormous weight of the superstructure is sustained upon consuperstructure is sustained upon concrete piers sunk deep into the earth. The entire interior is built of structural steel. There is no connection between the exterior of walls and the steel structure within them. They are so entirely independent that the exterior wall might be entirely removed without endangering the interior. The walls subserve the purposes of enclosure and ornamentation only. The outer walls are built of pressed commercial brick, faced with Portage entry rock, cut sandstone for the first two stories, and with red pressed brick and terra cotta trimmings for the superstructure. The interior partitions, and all floors and columns are covered with fire proofing, the enclosed metal work being surrounded by open air chambers.

Oak and Plate Glass. The wood work is all of oak, the glass all of the heaviest French plate, and all other material used of the very best quality and kind known to architectural construction. The main entrances are paved in elaborate designs in mosaic. The patterns for the entrances were made in England and exported in reatiness for speedy adjustment. All corridors on every floor are finished in tile, that is of English make and was imported by the builders. All bases in the corridors of the building are of marble, and all wainbuilding are of marble, and all wain-scoting in the corridors, aside from the main entrance is of Keene cement. The roof is of fire proof construction, of triple thickness. The building is sur-rounded by steel frame work, contain-ing translucent lights, and a wide pave-ment of stone flagging.

Fixtures and Furnishings. The main entrance, which is elaborately finished in pink Tennessee mar-ble, leads directly to two passenger elevator routes and a metalic stair route that connect every floor of the building. Another elevator for freight and a janitor's stair route constitute the means of access to the upper floors of the building. The elevators are all of the latest construction known to mechanics and embrace all the most modern and scientifically correct principles and features known. They are built upon the compression tank system, operated by hydraulic power. The shafts are 140 feet high and the power sufficient to carry the cars with full loads at the rate of 400 feet per minute. The cars are built of aluminum, the hightest metal known to science. They are finished in chaste and elegant designs and in their silvery brightness have an appearance of lightness and beauty not otherwise realized in elevator construction. The shafts are guarded by latticed iron and grille work in mechanics and embrace all the most tor construction. The shalls are guarded by latticed iron and grille work in elaborate and beautiful designs and the swift flight of the silvery car behind them has all the brilliancy of a flash of electric light. The grille work of the elevator shalls, as indeed the metal work of the stair routes and even the hardware for door and window trim-mings and the gas and electric chan-deliers, are all of special design and uniformly finished in the rich black of the Bower-Baarf process, trimmed in

oxidized bronze. Grille Work Arches,

The arch above the Pearl street entrance is guarded by an immense grille of wrought iron. The closets of the building are arranged in a series one above another, and occupying the same relative position on each floor. They are of elaborate construction, are provided with tile floors, radiators and lavatories. They are all finished in pink Tennessee marble, with heavy brass mountings. No material is used in these apartments except marble and metal. The fixtures are of the best construction known to sanitary science They are all connected with a huge ventilator shaft, provided with forced ventilation, that draws all unhealthful odors from the apartments.

The telephone system of the building is provided for by a special cable running direct from the central telephone exchange. It enters the building from the roof and is distributed to every floor and office. The wires are all con cealed from view. The gas and elec-tric lighting is provided for by separate systems, each having distinct fire proof meter rooms on each floor. The building is provided by special underground electric convections.



suites of offices on each floor above the third are provided with steel vaults. pendent switch. A mail shute, with an opening in each corridor, connects with a special deposit depot on the ground floor, serves for the conveyance of mail matter from ever floor.

How It Is Heated. The building is steam heated upor the angle pipe system, the radiators being of special design and decoration. The motive power is supplied by a bat-tery of steam builers and four steam pumps. As in the construction so in greatest care is taken to preserve, with the greatest vigilance, its distinctive character and to subserve that purpose

ment of transoms, door trimmings or other fixtures with eigns will be permitted. All awnings of the building must be of uniform style, color and material, as also all window shades.

MICHIGAN TRUST COMPANY.

this company. Look over the names of the members composing this com-mittee, and see if you do not think them better able to transact this business than the average executor would

The Company Never Dies. The Corporation That Built the Great Structure.

The Michigan Trust building was built by a corporation known as the Michigan Trust Company building. Michigan Trust Company building, a cetate is to be managed by the executors composed of many of the members of the Michigan trust company building are white oak, old English style. The pany, and others. It was designed by you name a number of your friends panels are decorated with delicately

houses. The furniture is the most beautiful and the interior finish the most artistic that money and refined taste can produce. The ceilings are finished in delicate canary yellow, the crevices and freize in old ivory and gold and the side walls in delicate tan. The room is surrounded with a massive oak wains coting with verde antique marble taste. The floor finish is of a delicate design, harmonious in tints with its surround-

Counters of Quarter-Sawed Oak.

The proper fulfillment of such important orders requires the services of those thoroughly experienced in the hardware trade, who are capable of giving the selection and adjustment of the transmings the most careful attention. The award of this important contract to the Gunn Hardware company in this case was eminently wise. The firm employs talent possessed of the requisite artistic justinet and training to conceive and to execute the production of high art hardware.

ply construction to prevent to bility of working or shrinka sash are of special design, them of huge proportions, and mathematical precision the frames for which they were The firm deserves especial for the promptness and faithfulness with which they fulfilled every detail with which they fulfilled every detail with which they fulfilled every detail. of it's important contract. tardiness or iax construction

Prepared in Advance.

Every fixture and piece of a fixture was prepared long in advance of the time at which it would be called into use, and in every case the perfected article was found to be exactly right in

article was found to be exactly right in all particulars. The supervising contractor paid the firm the compliment of stating that the contract was more satisfactorily fulfilled than any he had ever made for like work.

White, Friant & Letellier are one of the old and reliable firms of the Valley City and cnjoy a large and prosperous business in all lines of fine interior finishing in wood. They possess mills, forests and factories of their own. Possess ample capital and unlimited credit. Employ hundreds of skilled workmen and produce an annual product worth hundreds of thousands of dollars.

The firm is composed of gentlemen who have attained enviable reputamercial qualities; men who have won the confidence and esteem of their fellow citizens throughout the state. Their union with any effort, public or private, is al promise of success and a guarantee of honest purpose.

Scientific banitary Plumbing As the erection of human babitations and commercial institutions have for their prime object the service and comfort of humanity, nothing connected therewith can be of more vital importance than the sanitation of them. Indeed, the first object sought by the architectural engineer in the production of a modern structure, after questions of purpose and magnitude are determined, is that of adequate drainage and ventilation.

Responding to this modern demand

age and ventilation.

Responding to this modern demand sanitary experts have wrought dilligently and have brought forth abundantly. As the result of their efforts modern architecture has at its disposal an array of superb devices for interior in form and outline and are in harmony with the prevailing style of
grilles and carvings throughout the
building. The door locks are double
bolted and provided with night locks.
All knobs are set with nut locks, making not only the most substantial lookfinish, which are scientifically correct in construction and are designed in harmony with the strictest require-

ing but durable trimmings known to the bardware trade. The light chan-deliers and brackets are all fitted for Plembing in the Building.

In the plumbing of the Michigan Trust company building the services of one of foremost houses in Michigan, Messrs. Weatherly & Pulte of this city, were secured. This firm has made a special effort in the line of fine and ar-Hardware company conducts a very extensive business in this line. The special effort in the line of fine and ar-tistic plumbing fixtures, and are thor-oughly abreast of the times in the sup-ply of elegant goods of their lines. The work in this case was done entirely under the personal management and supervision of Mr. Weatherly of the firm, a man of wide experience and recognized authority on matters of ean-itary science. Not a joint or part of the entire work was allowed to take its destined place in the final structure without his perfect knowledge of its fit

without his perfect knowledge of its fit and fitness for its use.

The contract as a whole was the largest single plumbing contract ever let in Michigan. In point of quality of material used the contract occupies the highest point possible of attainment. It comprised the sewerage, closets, water, gas, steam and ventilating fittings and fixtures for the whole building.

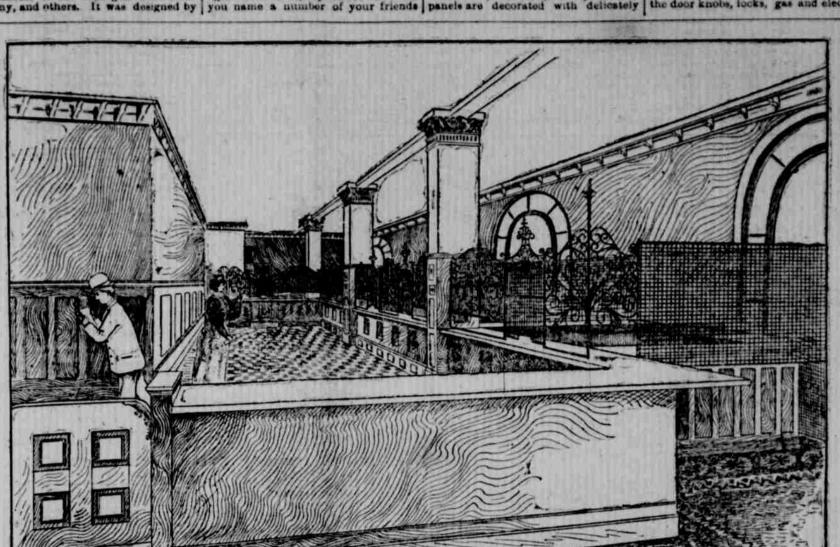
The closets alone are worthy of especial study and description. They were objects of profound solicitation upon the part of builders, architect and piumbers, and in their present perfec-tion are superb types of all that human ingenuity, combined with refined artis-tic sense and unlimited means can accomplish, in producing this adjunct of architecture. The sewer pipes are all overhead pipes in the basement and so arranged in series as to facilitate the arranged in series as to facilitate the utmost convenience for repairs or connections. The gas connections are all connected in separate meter rooms for the different floors and so constructed as to provide for metering in single or double room combinations. The meter chambers for the various floors occupy spaces below the floors to which they are attached, so that any impurity contained in the papes mey be arrested in fixtures provided for that purpose before entering the meters. A single perpendicular gas main supples the requisite gas to the series of meter chambers, which rise one above another in regular succession from basement to attic.

The electric system of the building is the same in all respects, so far as manmer of control and adjustment are concerned, as the gas system and like it is supplied by subterranean connections. The water connections of the building are built upon an ample scale and furnished in the most substantial manner.

manner.

Nearly every office of the building is supplied with lavatories. These indispensable fixtures are of the most approved model which samitation and artistic requirements approve. They are all of white martile, with howis of the same, sustained by bran corinections, and furnished in nickel plates. tions, and furnished in nickel plates trimmings. The bases of all of them are elegant red tile drainage stands, all of which are directly connected with the ventilation of the building.

The building contains forty closets, twenty-five urinals, and over 100 lavatories. The contract was for up-wardness of \$15,000.



INTERIOR OF THE OFFICES OF THE MICHIGAN TRUST COMPANY

the famous architect, S. S. Bemen of Chicago, the leading commercial archi-tect of America. Its construction was begun a little more than one year ago. From first to last an army of artisans and laborers have been employed, and the work has been pushed with the utmost energy. Notwithstanding this not a fatality nor serious accident has occurred. The property is valued at \$350,000. The first lesses to open its doors to business will be the Michigan State bank, on Monday, July 11. The Michigan Trust company, as a banking security for its faithful performance of Michigan Trust company, as a banking institution, is now a famous and well established institution, and is the leading company for the transac tion of a general trust business in the state. It is the pioneer institution of the state in the distinctive line that it represents. In fact it was through the efforts of its members that a bill passed the state legislature at the session of 1888-9, whereby the corporation was made a possibility under the state law. The organization quickly followed the enabling act and the institution entered upon its commercial career Since that time the business of the Michigan Trust company has realized phenomenal growth and prosperity. Today there is not a more widely known or substantial institution in

Michigan than it. Its Organization It was organized in 1889 with a capttal of \$200,000, with an additional ha-bility of stockholders for a like amount. pany are subject to the supervision and inspection of the commissioner of banking of the state. For the still further protection of its patrons the company is obliged to deposit \$100,000

with the state treasurer.
Its afficers are: President, Lewis H. Withey; vice president, Willard Barn-hart; second vice president, D. D. Cody; third vice president, Henry Idema; secretary, A. G. Hodenpyl. Its executive committee consists of these gentlemen and Thomas D. Gilbert, James M. Barnett and Daniel H. Waters. Its directors are the present members of the executive committee and Alfred D. Rathbone, Harvey J. Hollister, William Sears, Charles Fox, T. Stewar White, R. B. Woodcock, N. L. Avery, S. R. Jenks, John W. Champhn, W. W. Cummer, E. Golden Filer and Charles

H. Hackley. Under the laws of the state of Michigan this company is authorized and will undertake to loan money on approved real estate security, to loan money on approved collateral security, to act as executor, administrator, guardian, trustee, assignee, receiver, fiscal and transfer agent and registrar of stocks, and to act as agents for other persons or corporations in the transaction of any business that may be committed to it, to care for property, col-lect interest, dividends, coupons and rents, to execute orders for the purchase and sale of all kinds of invest ment securities, making a specialty of local stocks, to receive deposits of trust monies on certificate or subject to check, to receive deposits of court funds, to maintain and manage safety deposit vanits, and to transact a general trust business

Mainly Trust Funds.

It directs its business mainly to the receipt of trust funds and funds for in restment in large or small amounts and, therefore, especially commendwidows, married women, cierks, me chanics, laborers and others not en gaged in active business, who wish to invest their capital or savings in mort gages or other securities, where it will be safe and bring in an income. The appointment of the company as executor will relieve one of the embarrass. ment of asking one's friends to take a large amount of labor upon themselves

in closing up one's estate. It will relieve one's friends, whom consect of a mite of steam heated and occupy his apartment as a dermatory.

No one may keep a musical instrument tors, from the emission as executives of comfortable living. The residence site colleges all others of the dence site colleges all others of the

ity on the part of its stockholders, is security for its faithful performance of its duties. Because this company will care for your estate in a business like way, rendering intelligent accounts to the probate court, as required by law. and finally closing the estate in a lega and businessike manner. Are you aware of the fact that thousands of executors never render statements of their stewardship, although called upor

to do so by the probate court. Its Safety Vaults.

The Michigan Trust company in its safety deposit department offers to the people of Grand Rapids and Western Michigan, absolute protection for the safe keeping of their notes, deeds, abstracts, insurance policies, bonds, stocks, leases, wills, money, jewelry, paintings, silver, private papers and valuables of any and all kinds. Its large steel 'vaults are protected every known device, and are absolutely burglar and fire-proof. The safety de posit vault of the company is contained in an independent structure of massive architectural proportions lo-This structure consists of a single room in the midst of which the monster stee room or deposit vault stands. This central structure is approachable from all sides, being entirely detached from masonry either about or above it.

Approach to the Vault, The sole approach to this invincible strong hold is guarded by a ponderous steel grille, that would defy an army of burglars. The vault structure itself is built entirely of chrome steel, is four inches thick and sustained by stay bolts at short intervals. The structure is except the outer plate which is one inch thick, is lapjointed and presents a perfectly smooth exterior surface. It contains a door in each end which engages the joint in a series of offsets correspondingly in thickness with the doors are made in the most massive and inpregnable manner known in bank construction. They are provided with crane hinges, that permit of an air tight joint between the door and joint, time locks and an eccentric locking device that insures contact of the door with the jamb under immense mechanical leverage. This structure is as near indestructible as human ingenuity could well create. It contains ,000 safes for rental for patrons of the bank. Opening into the safety deposit room is the storage vault for the deposit of valuable packages, garments, jewelry, etc. This structure is 114 by 22 feet in interior dimensions. The vault chamber contains coupon rooms closets, and lavatories, with a commit, tee room attached and a private stairway leading to the banking office

The banking office of the Michigan Trust company is one of the finest commercial apartments in America. It occupies the entire Ottawa street front and the Pearl street front of the building to the main entrance upon the sec-ond floor of the building. Its rault is of the same defiant material and made of construction that characterizes the various other depositories throughout various other depositories throughout the building. The vault is 111 by 22 feet in size and two stories high. Its interior is provided with reseptacles for valuable papers, moneys, stocks or other property, and for the books of the firm. The banking office room is provided with every device that is known to anbeerve any useful purpose.

(say three) as your executors, you may not know that you subject your estate in raised designs. All partitions between the officers' apartments are panthelaw allows executors, to the number of the same material fixtures and window trimmings. These fixtures are all finished in the Bower-Baarf process of justreless black.

Elegant Designs in Black. the clerks and tellers are provided with elegant apartments behind the main counter, and are safely separated from each other and from the outside world by massive wrought iron grille work finished in the Bower-Baarf process, to correspond with the metal work throughout the building. These apartments are guarded by automatic locking gravity doors and are provided with check baskets and other convenences. Connected with the main oanking office are the private apart-nents of the president and secretary of the Trust company. They are sumptions spartments, and finished with all the lavish expenditure of care and artistic talent which has made the building the monumental commercial palace of Michigan.

HARDWARE AND WOODWORK. The Firm That Furnished It for the Trust

Company. Within the past five years there has been an increasing demand for a better grade of hardware, and for a product fully abreast of the advanced architectural and artistic requirements of the day. Fine hardware, indeed ar tistic hardware is, now an indispensible adjunct to fine buildings and from its conspicuous function the demand that t be in harmony of elegance and style with its surroundings is imperative.

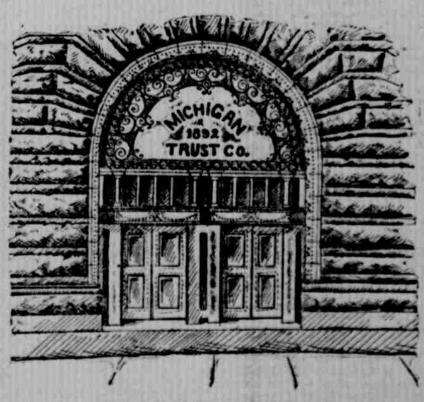
out the country that make a specialty of decorative bardware and

Baarf rustless iron, plain bronze, antique bronze, old copper, plain bass, antique brass, oxydized silver, gold and nickel-plated and hand-chased goods, wrought iron hinges, escutcheons, grilles, and any other high art hardware that may be desired fur-nished from special designs. Artistic Woodwork, Nothing more emphatically bespeaks the character and quality of a great structure than the style and perfec-

uon of its carpentry. The endless number of fixtures which are made of wood, and which are always the most conspicuous feature of all buildings are a constant reminder of the archi-tectural pretensions of the building All window frames, sash, door frames and doors, flooring, rails, mouldings and There are now many houses through-out the country that make a specialty be made of wood, and the importance of their being made in the highest perlarge contracts are undertaken, as in the case of the Michigan Trust company building, a special designer is struction of the main doors and caspany building, a special designer is struction of the main doors and cas-first employed to produce a uniform ings of such a building are very elab-

The designs are chaste and elegant

goods handled are such as the Bower-



MAIN ENTRANCE - MICHIGAN TRUST BUILDING.

set of drawings of the required trimmings of the building, making them all conform in general style and ele-gance to each other and to the finishsubject of profound study and pains-taking effort. The general design of the architect should be carried out in the minutest detail of panel and moulding and the emngs of which they are to form a part. Thus in this case the Ginn llardware company, now recognized as being one of the leading institutions of the kind in the central states, invited experts to compete in the production of a uniform style and quality of hardware for this building, and the result is the magnificent trimmings which now adorn the structure.

An imperiant contract

The contract was one of the most importance was one of the most importance of unbounded facilities and pertant ever let for builders' hardware. Thus in the case the Good Hardware company, now recog-nized as being one of the leading institutions of the kind in the central